

General Delivery
Moose Factory
Ontario
POL 1W0

Mr. David Winnenger,
Parliamentary Assistant to the
Attorney General
Queen's Park, Toronto

20 January 1993

Dear Mr. Winnenger,

Recently I phoned your office, concerned that the Attorney General's office was not responding to concerns about attitude problems in the crown attorney's office in Ottawa with respect to prosecuting cases of child abuse against children with environmental sensitivities.

The abuse takes three forms. The first involves physical abuse, such as vigorous shaking, which teachers have reportedly inflicted on children with sensitivities. A more damaging form of abuse takes place when the teacher berates the child's attitude, even after being informed of the effect sensitivities can have on behaviour and learning abilities, and blames the child for their disability. Several children have been reduced to tears by such treatment.

The third kind of abuse involves the teacher knowingly causing the child to experience reactions which variously produce anxiety, depression, hyperactivity, mood swings, and learning and behaviour disabilities.

I have been surprised by the failure of authorities to act on such instances of child abuse, but I have never experienced a response such as that of your assistant, who, after hearing a description of the first type of abuse listed above, said, "Oh, is that all" and excused herself from the phone call.

How do you explain this lack of concern about child abuse in your office?

Sincerely,

Chris Brown
Ottawa Branch President
Allergy and Environmental Health Association
(705) 658-4649